

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 15707 310224Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/066 W

-----035240 310230Z /23

P 310222Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0820  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
USLO PEKING  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 15707

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: ASEC, PORS, PDIP, PROP, JA, LA, US  
SUBJECT: LAOTIANS CHARGE CIA COMPLICITY IN MURDER OF  
JAPANESE DIPLOMAT

REF: 77 VIENTIANE 1685

1. MOFA 1ST SEA DIVDIR YUSHITA CALLED IN EMBOFF  
AUGUST 29 TO DISCUSS JAPANESE EMBASSY VIENTIANE CABLE,  
REPORTING THAT LAOTIAN RADIO BROADCAST SAME DAY CHARGED  
CIA AND RIGHTIST ELEMENTS WITH PLOTTING MURDER OF JAPANESE  
CHARGE SUGIE AND WIFE IN VIENTIANE LAST CHRISTMAS (REFTEL).  
BROADCAST SAID VIENTIANE CITY PEOPLE'S COURT HANDED DOWN  
SENTENCE AUGUST 26 ON BOONMI VONGSUMIT AND FOUR ACCOMPLICES,  
AND REPORTED THAT SENTENCING WAS PROCEDED BY STATEMENT THAT  
INCIDENT WAS MANIPULATED BY CIA AND RIGHTIST ELEMENTS IN  
ORDER TO CREATE CONFUSION, DESTROY DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS  
BETWEEN JAPAN AND LAOS, AND RAISE DOUBTS ABOUT SECURITY  
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IN LAOS.

2. YUSHITA SAID THAT ONCE OR TWICE DURING INVESTIGATION,  
LAOTIAN AUTHORITIES HAD HINTED TO JAPANESE THAT BACK-  
GROUND ELEMENTS WERE BEHIND MURDER, BUT HAD NEVER SAID  
ANYTHING DEFINITE. GOJ HAS ASKED LAOTIANS FOR FULL TEXT  
OF AUGUST 26 COURT PROCEEDINGS, INASMUCH AS AMBASSADOR

AND EMBASSY OFFICERS WERE PRESENT ONLY FOR ACTUAL SENTENCING.

3. YUSHITA SAID GOJ WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION USG MAY HAVE ON SUGIE INCIDENT, PARTICULARLY ANY THEORIES AS TO WHY LAOTIANS CHOSE TO DRAG ABOVE ALLEGATIONS INTO CASE.

4. CABLE WAS DRAFTED BEFORE RECEIPT OF VIENTIANE 938 AND 941. WE WILL CONVEY RELEVANT INFORMATION TO MOFA. MANSFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERVENTION, MURDER, ALLEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TOKYO15707  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014